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Subject: The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- June 21, 2018

REDEFINING EPA: Overhauling an agency and its mission -- Complete coverage

June 21, 2018

Latest News

Pruitt's Scandals Complicate Path For EPA Waste, International Nominees

Ongoing concerns about EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's ethics scandals, the agency's limited responses to oversight requests and other issues will make it difficult for President Donald Trump's nominees to head the

agency's waste and international affairs offices to gain Senate approval, Democratic senators told a June 20 environment committee hearing.

Reversing Course, Inhofe Defends Pruitt, Calling Accusations 'Lies'

Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK) is strongly defending EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt against numerous allegations of unethical conduct, calling them "outrageous lies," an apparent reversal from a week ago when the senator said he was upset by Pruitt's missteps and suggested the administrator might need to step down.

Major Glider Manufacturer Blames Layoffs On EPA's Stalled Repeal Proposal

One of the country's largest manufacturers of high-emitting "glider" trucks is blaming EPA's failure, so far, to scrap Obama-era production limits on the vehicles for layoffs at the company, a situation that highlights the Trump EPA's incomplete deregulatory efforts and which could play into political efforts to speed action on the repeal rule.

ATSDR Seeks To Downplay Effect Of PFAS Risk Levels Stricter Than EPA's

A federal health agency has released its much-anticipated draft toxicological profile for perfluorinated chemicals that recommends risk values more conservative than EPA's, but the agency is downplaying potential health concerns from exposures above its limits, cautioning the public not to read its levels as cleanup or health effects standards.

EPA Drops Plan For CWA Spill Rule Despite Settlement To Consider Policy

EPA is proposing to formally drop plans for a Clean Water Act (CWA) rule to prevent or contain industrial chemical spills by claiming that current policies already cover all the requirements that a comprehensive spill policy would include, drawing fire from environmentalists who had a settlement with EPA to consider pursuing the new rule.

Daily Feed

EPA issues TSCA new chemicals submission guide

EPA's guidance seeks to advise industry on how to ensure speedy review and approvals of their new chemicals submissions.

New York sues manufacturers over firefighting foam contamination

The state says the suit is the first to target manufacturers of firefighting foam containing perfluorinated chemicals.

EPA sends ozone NAAQS 'good neighbor' rule for OMB review

The agency's pending proposed rule could potentially find that EPA does not need to take additional regulatory steps to help states attain the 2008 ozone national ambient air quality standard.

Quote-Unquote: Covering NEPA, secret science and a plan to reorganize EPA

CEQ begins its long-awaited NEPA rethink, Colorado opts to adopt California vehicle rules, and the Heritage Foundation's approach for revamping EPA.

Ewire: Bipartisan group forms to push carbon tax

In today's Ewire: Co-chaired by former Sens. Trent Lott (R-MS) and John Breaux (D-LA), Americans for Carbon Dividends is hoping to break decades of GOP resistance to carbon controls.

Texas business group launches new suit over Obama-era CWA rule

The suit seeks to block not only the 2015 rule but any future rule from asserting authority over waters known as Texas coastal prairie wetlands.

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